

LINN COUNTY, IOWA, CONSERVATION BOARD

MINUTES OF THE MONDAY, APRIL 23, 2018, BOARD MEETING

The following is a true copy of the minutes of the meeting of the Linn County, Iowa, Conservation Board held on **Monday, April 23, 2018**, at the Wickiup Hill Learning Center, 10260 Morris Hills Rd, Toddville, Iowa.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT

Hillary Hughes and George Kanz

Cindy Burke participated in the meeting via telephone

John Hanson participated for a portion of the meeting via telephone

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT

Steve Emerson

STAFF PRESENT

Dennis Goemaat, Director; Randy Burke, Planner; Ryan Schlader, Community Outreach; Dana Kellogg, Natural Resources Manager; Aaron Batchelder, Wapsipinicon District Resource Manager; Jason Baumann, South Cedar District Resource Manager; and Jenny Corbett, Lead Conservation Education Specialist.

OTHERS PRESENT

Jim Houser, Linn County Board of Supervisors; and Rob Peck, Design Dynamics, Inc.

CALL TO ORDER

Conservation Board President Hughes called the meeting to order at 12:05 PM.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None

ITEM R1. APPROVE CONSENT AGENDA

MOTION by Kanz, second by Burke.

To approve the consent agenda.

VOTE: aye; all present
 nay; none
 absent: Emerson, Hanson

The consent agenda was approved and involved the following items:

ITEM C1. APPROVE THE MARCH 26, 2018 REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING MINUTES

ITEM C2. APPROVE CLAIMS AND EXPENDITURES – CLAIMS LIST #2018-10

Claims and Transfer list #2018-10 involving claim #10-568 through claim #10-623

ITEM C3. RECEIVE AND PLACE ON FILE THE MARCH 2018 FINANCIAL/BUDGET REPORT

ITEM C4. RECEIVE AND PLACE ON FILE THE MARCH 2018 ACTIVITY REPORT

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ITEM C5. ACCEPTANCE OF GIFTS

1. Gift #28-2018 – Jean Barger, monetary donation (\$900) to be used to purchase a bench at Morgan Creek Park in memory of John R. and Larry B. Barger.
2. Gift # 29-2018 – Richard Twedt, donation of cross-country skis, boots and poles.
3. Gift # 30-2018 – Linda & Bill Quigley, monetary donation (\$20) for the Wickiup Wandering Woods playscape at Wickiup Hill Learning Center.
4. Gift #31-2018 – Various donations totaling \$215 in memory of Jay Prediger for Wickiup Hill Learning Center.
5. Gift #32-2018 – Various donations totaling \$1,345 in memory of Harold Paul for Matsell Bridge Natural Area enhancements.
6. Gift #33-2018 – Shawn and Kimberly Stockley, monetary donation (\$20) for the Wickiup Hill Learning Center.

ITEM C6. CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT UPDATES

REGULAR AGENDA:

ITEM R2. PUBLIC HEARING REGARDING THE PLANS AND SPECIFICATIONS, FORM OF CONTRACT, AND ESTIMATED CONSTRUCTION COSTS FOR THE PLAINS CAMPGROUND SHOWER AND STORM SHELTER AT PINICON RIDGE PARK, PROJECT #04-15

President Hughes opened the public hearing at 12:06 PM. Proof of publication was presented. No written or oral objections were received.

MOTION by Kanz, second by Burke.

To close the public hearing.

VOTE: aye; all present
nay; none
absent; Emerson, Hanson

ITEM R3. DISCUSS AND DECIDE ON RESOLUTION #2018-17, APPROVAL OF THE PROPOSED PLANS, SPECIFICATIONS, FORM OF CONTRACT AND ESTIMATED CONSTRUCTION COSTS FOR THE PLAINS CAMPGROUND SHOWER AND STORM SHELTER AT PINICON RIDGE PARK, PROJECT #04-15.

Randy Burke provided the Board with an overview of the Plains campground shower and storm shelter project. Rob Peck presented plans for the project.

MOTION by Kanz, second by Burke.

To approve and adopt Resolution 2018-17.

VOTE: aye; all present
nay; none
absent; Emerson, Hanson

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Member Hanson joined the meeting by telephone at this time.

ITEM R4. DISCUSS AND DECIDE ON ADDITIONAL BOND FUNDED PROJECT REGARDING THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE MASTER PLAN SIGNAGE PROJECT AT PINICON RIDGE AND SQUAW CREEK COUNTY PARKS.

Goemaat reviewed the additional bond funded project for signage at Pinicon Ridge and Squaw Creek Parks with the Board. The funding breakdown for this project was discussed. A request from the Linn County Water and Land Legacy Public Review Board to increase non-bond funding for the signage project was discussed. The Board agreed to modify the proposed funding to reflect \$150,000 in bond funds and \$50,000 from the Conservation Reserve Fund.

MOTION by Kanz, second by Burke.

To approve this project and include it in the request to the Board of Supervisors for bond funding.

VOTE: aye; all present
nay; none
absent; Emerson

ITEM R5. DISCUSS AND DECIDE ON RESCINDING RESOLUTION 2018-5, AND REPLACING IT WITH RESOLUTION 2018-16, REQUESTING THE LINN COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS SELL BONDS TO FUND SPECIFIC LINN COUNTY WATER AND LAND BOND PROJECTS.

Goemaat reviewed Resolution 2018-16 with the Board and discussed the need to rescind Resolution #2018-5. This approach will allow all bond-funded projects to be submitted to the Board of Supervisors on a single resolution to initiate sale of bonds.

MOTION by Hanson, second by Kanz.

To rescind resolution #2018-5.

VOTE: aye; all present
nay; none
absent; Emerson

MOTION by Kanz, second by Hanson.

To approve and adopt resolution #2018-16.

VOTE: aye; all present
nay; none
absent; Emerson

Member Hanson disconnected from the meeting at this time.

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ITEM R6. DISCUSS AND DECIDE REGARDING BOARD CONSENT FOR THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS TO CONVEY THE RIGHT OF WAY ADJACENT TO MORGAN CREEK PARK FOR THE E AVENUE ROAD IMPROVEMENT WORK.

This item was tabled pending further information from the Board of Supervisors. The Linn County Board of Supervisors has not taken action at this time.

ITEM 6A. DISCUSS REQUEST FOR CEDAR RAPIDS TO USE MORGAN CREEK PARK FOR REQUIRED WETLAND MITIGATION AS A RESULT OF THE E-AVENUE ROAD IMPROVEMENT PROJECT

Goemaat updated the Board concerning a request from the City of Cedar Rapids Engineering Department and the E-Avenue Project engineer to allow a mitigation wetland to be designed using park property adjacent to E-Avenue. Board consensus is to allow planning for this work to proceed. A formal agreement will be developed and presented to the Board for consideration in the future.

ITEM R7. DISCUSS AND DECIDE REGARDING POSITION REVIEWS AND FILLING VACANT POSITION.

Goemaat reviewed a memo to the Board outlining proposed adjustments and pay for three positions within the Conservation Department. These include Natural Resource Specialist, Accounting Specialist and Clerical Specialist.

MOTION by Burke, second by Kanz.

To authorize the Director to work with Human Resources to affect the changes as proposed.

VOTE: aye; all present
nay; none
absent; Emerson, Hanson

ITEM R8. DISCUSS AND DECIDE ON AUTHORIZING THE PURCHASE OF EQUIPMENT ITEMS FROM THE FY2018 BUDGET.

Goemaat reviewed the request to purchase equipment items from the FY 2018 budget. A new mower and brush chipper are requested if funds are available in the 2018 budget.

MOTION by Kanz, second by Hughes.

To authorize staff to work with county purchasing to acquire these pieces of equipment within budget constraints.

VOTE: aye; all present
nay; none
absent; Emerson, Hanson

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ITEM R9. DISCUSS CONNECT CR REQUEST FOR SUPPORT FROM THE LINN COUNTY WATER AND LAND LEGACY BOND.

Goemaat updated the Board concerning discussions with Connect CR related to a request for funding for the project from Linn County Water and Land Legacy Bonds. Materials from Connect CR were distributed to the Board. Additional discussion was delayed until all Board members could be in attendance. Hughes suggested the Board discuss this request in the next couple of months.

ITEM R10. DISCUSS AND DECIDE ON ACCEPTING THE PROPOSAL FROM GEE ASPHALT SYSTEMS TO SEAL THE ASPHALT TRAIL AT PINICON RIDGE PARK AND AUTHORIZE THE BOARD PRESIDENT OR EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR TO SIGN THE PROPOSAL.

Randy Burke reviewed the proposal from Gee Asphalt to seal the Pinicon Ridge Park to Central City Trail.

MOTION by Kanz, second by Burke.

To approve the contract with Gee Asphalt and authorize the Director to sign on behalf of the Board.

VOTE: aye; all present
nay; none
absent; Emerson, Hanson

ITEM R11. DISCUSS AND DECIDE REGARDING HOLDING THE MAY 21 CONSERVATION BOARD MEETING AT MORGAN CREEK PARK

Goemaat indicated that Shive-Hattery will be ready to present their draft park site plan to the Board at the May meeting. It would be beneficial to meet on site to allow the Board members to view the overall plan on site.

MOTION by Burke, second by Kanz.

To approve holding the May 21 Conservation Board meeting at Morgan Creek Park.

VOTE: aye; all present
nay; none
absent; Emerson, Hanson

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ITEM R12. BOARD MEMBER AND STAFF REPORTS

- 1) Update regarding proposal to annex Squaw Creek Park into the City of Marion –Goemaat provided a written update concerning a meeting with Marion officials related to annexation. Marion appears to be willing to develop an agreement to allow the Conservation Board to continue to operate the park as a county park. The group is scheduled to meet again with Marion representatives on May 10.

ITEM R13. PUBLIC COMMENT

None received

ITEM R14. ADJOURN

The meeting adjourned at 12:47 PM.

Amanda Bieber typed the above minutes.



Recording Secretary



Board Secretary

SEAL